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Boro Club Hears Cuba 'Mishandled'

There is little opportunity for either the Republicans or the Democrats to make "political hay" out of the Cuban situation. Both the present administration and the previous one have mishandled the problem.

Guy J. Swope, deputy treasurer of Pennsylvania and former governor of Puerto Rico and director of United States Territories, said this last night when he addressed members of Bristol Exchange Club.

He said that when Batista was overthrown, most of the American business community in Cuba welcomed it, but very little was known about Castro, even by the Central Intelligence Agency.

"To me it is almost unthinkable that a man could come to power about whom we knew almost nothing," he said.

Biggest Mistake

The biggest mistake made by the present administration was not to carry through the Bay of Pigs invasion once it had been started, Swope said.

Swope pinpointed Cuba as one of the three major issues in the world today. The others are the development of the European Common Market, and the relations between Russia and China.

Swope welcomed the development of the Common Market, but said that the one "fly in the ointment" was the insistence of French premier Charles De Gaulle that Great Britain be excluded. He said that De Gaulle was wrong in believing that French leadership of Europe could be maintained indefinitely, because Germany would ultimately challenge this.

"The greatest antidote to this would be Great Britain, and all of us should earnestly hope and pray that Great Britain will soon get into the Common Market," he said.

Swope said that he regarded China rather than Russia as the greatest threat to world peace. The differences between China and Russia should not be exaggerated — both countries have the same ambition — to "bury us" — and it would not make much difference which one did it, he said.

"The greatest hope of survival we have is to remain strong enough militarily to prevent any attempt to defeat us," he concluded.

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